

By Yesterday Evening's Mail.

Letter From Warrenton.
 Warrenton, August 5.—We have lately been refreshed with several delightful showers of rain, in consequence of which vegetation has assumed a different aspect, and the corn crop will be much better than was expected.

The laying of the corner-stone of the Fauquier Female Seminary, took place yesterday afternoon, with appropriate ceremonies.—This institution is to be conducted upon a liberal and enlarged scale, and the selection of Dr. Bacon as principal, almost insures its success. He is well known to many of our readers as President of the Columbian College, and as a person of high standing in the community. The Seminary is an enterprise in which the Fauquier people have considerable interest. The stockholders organized about ten years ago, since which time they have encountered numerous difficulties, but, thanks to the seal and enterprise of the present efficient officers, the building has been commenced, and in a short time we may expect to see reared in our midst an edifice that will be an honor to our town and county. Yesterday quite a number of our citizens were present to witness the laying of the corner-stone. I am sorry that the space usually occupied by my letter, forbids an extended notice of the address delivered upon the occasion; but a more detailed account of the names of the speakers will indicate the character of the intellectual feast which all present enjoyed. After an appropriate prayer by Rev. David Thomas, the assembly was addressed by Messrs. R. Taylor, R. Scott, R. W. Payne, Rev. A. D. Pollock, Rev. D. Thomas, Dr. Bacon, John C. Marr, and Jas. V. Brooks. That this noble enterprise may be eminently successful and meet the most sanguine expectations of its projectors, is the universal desire.

W. Edmonds has sold his farm of 165 acres, situated near the Warrenton Branch R. R., to W. D. Chichester, at \$25 per acre. J. M. Billy has disposed of his farm, called "Baylisburg," near Greenwich, to T. W. Edmonds, at \$8 per acre, \$350 acres.

TERRIFIC THUNDER AND LIGHTNING.—About 12 o'clock on Tuesday night last, a storm of thunder, lightning and rain, which had begun in the North West, broke over our city with a fury so tremendous as to astonish even the "oldest inhabitants."

While the fury of the elements raged over our city for about one hour, the lightning burst incessantly with a blinding brilliancy, intermingled with loud, vicious roaring, darting forks of fire, in every direction, and accompanied almost simultaneously with a low, surging and deafening peal of thunder. It surpassed any thing of the kind experienced here during 40 years back. The incidents attending the storm are numerous and some amusing, though we have heard of some accidents also—none of a serious nature, however, in the city.

In Houses, stables and other buildings in various portions of Richmond, the lightning, which was of a globular form, and like a globe of fire, rolled through, and one of the apartments. Another building, although unoccupied, was struck by lightning, "protectors," and on Church Hill a building containing two ladies was occupied; another house was "scorched." Some young females became so terrified, that even during the early part of yesterday they continued to fall into hysterics. Taking it all in all, as far as the thunder and lightning are concerned, it was a storm such as we would not often like to be waked up at midnight.

One house occupied by a gentleman on Church Hill is furnished with an electric conductor, but the workman who placed it there derelict in his duty, allowed the rod to be in contact with the edge of the building. The lightning severed about 18 inches of moulding under this edge, drawing the nails with it and shivered it in several pieces, the edgewise remaining in contact with the rod.—*Rich Enq.*

LIGHTNING ROD NO PROTECTOR.—On Tuesday night the lightning struck a chimney on Barrett's Tobacco Factory, on Main street, between 23d and 24th. The fluid tore up two or three feet of bricks and split the chimney for about five feet from the top, and shook some plastering on the inside of the wall in the upper story. On the roof within fifteen feet of the chimney, and of the same altitude, is a lightning rod, put up many years ago. On the same, also, there is a second rod, and a third on an adjacent building. A colored man who was on the premises, saw the lightning strike and then glance across the street.—*Rich. Smith.*

Wm. D. Wallace, esq., editor of the Washington Star, has purchased a portion of an adjoining tract, owned by T. S. Alcock, and Geo. D. Gray, esq.—98 acres at \$40 per acre.—*Blue Ridge Rep.*

The Fairfax News says:—The frequent and copious showers with which this neighborhood has lately been favored have been of great service to the Corn, Potatoes, and to vegetation generally.

Bishop Johns will preach in Pohick Church on Saturday and Sunday, the 14th and 15th instants, at 11 o'clock, a. m.

The Union anticipates from the election returns, Democratic triumphs in Kentucky and Missouri.

NOTICE TO COUNTRY MERCHANTS—The Board, SHOE, HAT AND CAP BUSINESS, hereinafter carried on by GEORGE H. BAYNE & CO., will be hereafter conducted by PATTERSON BAYNE, at the old stand, in the name of BAYNE & CO.

Country merchants will find a general assortment of fresh and desirable FALL and WINTER GOODS, as above described, lately purchased of the Eastern manufacturers, which will be sold low to cash or purchase orders.—To all such an earnest invitation is given to call. aug 6—eoim

NOTICE.—All persons indebted to us whose accounts are now passed due, are requested to call and settle them without delay, as longer indulgence cannot be given. GEORGE H. BAYNE & CO.

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LOCAL ITEMS.

COUNTY COURT.—In the County Court yesterday, John Parris, a free negro, charged with breaking into the house of D. O. B. Mangio, with a burglarious intent, was found "not guilty," but was found guilty of "entering for the purpose of larceny," and sentenced to three years imprisonment in the penitentiary. A motion was made for a new trial by J. Marshall, counsel for the prisoner, and the motion will be argued to-day. Chas. Elliott, who escaped from the jail on Wednesday, while being conveyed to the jail, was brought into court, and for that offence was sentenced to ten days imprisonment in the County Jail, and fined fifty dollars, to be imprisoned until the fine is paid. After the sentence was pronounced, the prisoner became very penitent and prayed the court to release him. The Grand Jury continued the investigation into the escape from jail of Trammell and Smith. Numerous witnesses were examined, among them several prisoners who were in the jail at the time of the escape. Without concluding the investigation the Jury were adjourned until this morning at 10 o'clock, when it is thought the result of their investigations will be made known. The Court disposed of several civil cases, and adjourned to meet this morning at 10 o'clock.

NEW ARRANGEMENT.—The through passengers over the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, are now taken directly to the wharf of the Washington steamer, in the cars, instead of by omnibuses from the Depot as heretofore. This new arrangement went into operation yesterday.

THE COAL BUSINESS.—SCARCITY OF LABOR.—There is at the present time considerable activity in the Coal business. The arrivals from Cumberland and shipments to Eastern ports are heavy, and the coal wharves present a scene of great activity. More laborers are however wanted at the wharves and in the yards, and we are requested by many of the Agents to say that a large number of men can now find steady employment.

HOMER MARKET ASSOCIATION.—The sixth annual fair of this association will be held at the Belmont Farm, (Col. W. H. Dainier's), on Broad Creek, in Piscataway District, Prince George's county, Maryland, on Thursday, the 19th day of August next, if fair, if not, on the next fair day thereafter. The complete success of these fairs for the last six years, and the large quantity of horses, cattle, and other farming stock which may be expected to be offered for sale this year, authorizes the expectation of a large attendance of buyers and sellers.

EXCURSION.—The Sabbath School of the Methodist Episcopal Church made an excursion to the White House, in the steamer Thomas Collyer, yesterday. The day was passed very agreeably by all who participated, and the young folks were particularly pleased.

ARRESTED.—Two individuals were arrested on Wednesday night, and taken before the Mayor yesterday morning, for breaking the public peace. One paid the fine and was dismissed. The other was sent by Justice English to jail for trial, for riotous conduct at the house of Mrs. Fisher, last month.

Notwithstanding the late rains, the weather continues very warm. Yesterday, at noon, in the shade, the thermometer stood at 92°. The night before was very warm.

HONORS TO ALEXANDRIANS.—The Virginia Sentinel says:—"We learn that Messrs. M. B. Hardin and W. Reid, who recently took the first honors at the Virginia Military Institute, have both been invited to honorable positions there. Mr. Hardin, to the post of Assistant Professor of Latin, and Mr. Reid, to that of Assistant Professor of Mathematics. This is conclusive evidence of the solid estimate placed upon these young gentlemen by those who know them best, and affords another opportunity for the congratulations of their friends."

THE WEATHER.—The storm on Tuesday evening did some, but no very serious, damage in this neighborhood. Some stacks of hay to the north of the city, the property of John A. Smith, esq., were set on fire, and the house of Mr. Childs, nearly opposite the Court House, on Louisiana avenue, was struck. The weather yesterday was perhaps the most oppressive of the season. Though the thermometer rose only to 88 or 90 degrees, such was the saturation of the air by moisture that it was but a few removes from intolerable.—*Nat. Int.*

SERIOUS ACCIDENT.—Yesterday morning, about seven o'clock, as the ship Ellen Hood, of Brunswick, Me., Capt. Kilby, from Alexandria, was approaching the city in tow of the steam-tug Tempest, of G. L. G. retown, Capt. Bowen, when between the Luzzetown wharf and Ft. Mifflin, the tug ran down and sank a small boat, containing two men, one of whom unfortunately was drowned, the other escaping by swimming, until rescued by a boat in the vicinity of the accident. The boat which contained the two men belonged to Mr. Thomas Green, who keeps a sailor boarding house on Thames street, and one of the passengers, named Joe Nesby, was employed as a runner for Green's establishment. The drowned man, a German, was a boarder at Green's, where he had been for about 5 days, and a seafaring man recently arrived here from another port. His name was unknown to those proprietor of the boarding house, and those connected with it, he merely giving the name of George when he came there to lodge. The body had not been recovered up to a late hour last evening. The steamer struck the boat amidships, completely wrecking her, and it is supposed the drowned man was not injured by the concussion, as he was not seen to rise to the surface after the collision. There are of course different opinions in regard to the unfortunate occurrence, some ascribing the pilot and others to the impression accident unavoidable; the latter was in charge generally prevails. The tow was in charge of Wm. Kuhnman, pilot of Alexandria, Va., who was arrested shortly after the occurrence, charged with violating the 5th section of an act regulating pilots, and also for running down the boat, thereby causing the drowning of the young man George. He was committed to jail by Justice Welch to answer charges. Captain Kilby, of the Ellen Hood, and Captain Bowen, of the Tempest were also arrested and held on security to appear and testify in the case.—*Baltimore Exchange.*

THE BALTIMORE AND POTOMAC RAILROAD project is again revived. A call is published, signed by several of the Commissioners named in the charter of the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad Company, calling for a general meeting of all the Commissioners, and of others interested in the movement, at Upper Marlboro', in Maryland, on the 26th instant. Our readers will remember that the Company was chartered some four or five years since, by the Legislature, for the purpose of building a road to connect Baltimore city and Aquia Creek, traversing portions of Anne Arundel, Prince George's, and Charles Counties. A survey of the route was made by Major Trimble, and it was said to be practically feasible, and that the natural advantages of the route, indeed, that it was estimated the road could be built at the minimum cost of construction.

SHOT.—An affray occurred in a restaurant on Union street, on Wednesday evening, between two men, named Martin Nails and Chamberlain Mills, in which the latter was wounded in the left hand by a shot from a pistol which he drew on Nails, but was prematurely discharged. The wound was dressed by Dr. Klinestein.

MARRIED.—On Thursday, the 2nd ult., by the Rev. Mr. Chew, Mr. THEOPHILUS M. BROOKE, of Leocompton, Kansas, and Miss SARAH A. BERRY, daughter of Dr. John E. Berry, of Prince George's county, Md.

DIED.—In Washington, on the 4th instant, Mrs. CLARA HALL, widow of the late Dr. Frederick Hall, of this city, in the 73d year of her age.

At his residence, in Culpeper county, on Sunday evening the 1st inst., after a lingering and very painful illness, WILLIAM WHARTON, in the 69th year of his age. He lived respected by all who knew him, and proved himself to be a kind husband, a fond father, a good neighbor, and an honest man.

COMMERCIAL.

THE MARKETS.
 BALTIMORE, August 5.—Flour is dull, but firm; Howard street \$4.45, new \$5; new City Mills \$5. Wheat is firm and unchanged; red 12 1/2c; white 12 1/2c. Corn is firm; white 82 1/2c; yellow 94c. Whiskey is steady 26 1/2c. Provisions are firm and closed with an advancing tendency. Bulk shoulders of cts. 14 1/2 to 15 1/2.

NEW YORK, August 5.—Flour has advanced; sales of 10,000 bbls.; State \$4.20, \$4.25; Ohio \$4.05, \$4.25; Southern is buoyant and unchanged; \$5.00, \$5.25. Wheat is unchanged. Corn is quiet and dull; white 95c; yellow 100c. Pork is firm; mess \$17.37, \$17.40. Whiskey is firm at 26c. Stocks are dull and lower. Va. 6 1/2, Mo. 6 1/2.

NEW YORK, August 4, 1858.—In the stock market there is nothing worthy of special notice. The rise or fall of fancy stocks creates but little interest. State stocks maintain their rates, and generally afford a safe investment.—The weekly Bank statement shows an accumulation of deposits and specie and an increase of loans. There are active preparations for the Government loan of Monday next. The specie now stands at the highest point it has yet reached, but it is thought that in the natural course of trade it must soon begin to decrease. There would seem to be a handsome margin.—The receipts from customs yesterday were \$243,000; whole balance in the Sub-Treasury \$5,290,719. This indicates a growing commercial activity.

ALMANAC.				
1858	SUN	SUN		
AUGUST.	days	feet.	MOON'S PHASES.	
1 Friday.....	5	7 6 53	D. H. M.	
2 Saturday.....	5	8 6 52	New....	8 11 43 E
3 Sunday.....	5	9 6 51	First pr.	16 6 32 M
4 Monday.....	5	10 6 50	Full....	24 9 2 M
5 Tuesday.....	5	11 6 49	Last q.	2 9 10 M
6 Wednesday.....	5	12 6 48	HIGH WATER.	
7 Thursday.....	5	13 6 47	AUGUST 6 5h. 9m.	